

# GPS Leader™ In-vehicle Data Collection

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**Mark Lepofsky, Ph.D.**

Manager, Commercial Products  
Battelle

[www.gpsleader.com](http://www.gpsleader.com)

# Presentation Overview

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- Introduction
- Product features
- Application areas
- Discussion

# GPS Leader™

## An Innovative Device for Data Collection

- First commercially available GPS-based data collection device for traffic and transportation studies
- Designed for in-vehicle use
- Compact, rugged, highly integrated
- Customizable user interface for different data collection/survey applications
- Advanced Battelle technology



# Battelle's GPS Leader

Palm OS  
Handheld Device  
(User Interface)

Main Unit:  
Integrated GPS,  
Data Storage, &  
Power Management

## Package Includes:

- Main unit
- Palm OS PDA
- GPS antenna
- Cables
- Software for downloading and managing data
- Documentation and video

GPS Antenna

# GPS Leader Features

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- GPS-based data collection device
- Data collected: (every second or less often)
  - Via the GPS receiver...
    - vehicle location in latitude & longitude
    - travel speed
  - Via the handheld user interface...
    - driver/occupants and trip purpose data
    - intersection or delay data
- Stores 5 to 7 days of detailed trip data for later download/analysis
  - Approximately 70 hours at the one-second level

# Applications for In-Vehicle GPS Technology

- Personal or Household Surveys
  - Transportation Planning, Travel Demand Analysis
- Travel Time Studies
  - Congestion Management
- Vehicle Activity Surveys
  - Commercial Truck Survey
- Emission Modeling and Duty Cycle Studies
  - Calibration for Microscopic Simulation, Evaluate Engine Stress to Improve Performance
- Fleet Performance / Operations Analysis
  - Evaluate Driver Behavior, Evaluate Fleet Productivity and Identify Areas of Improvement

**PTS**

**TT/CMS**

**AVAI**

(automatic vehicle  
activity inventory)

# **Who Can Benefit from GPS Deployment?**

- **Transportation Planning Agencies**
  - All levels: State, Region, County, City, and MPO
  - Collect detailed and accurate travel behavior data unavailable from traditional telephone survey
- **Traffic Engineers**
  - Automate and improve accuracy in travel time data collection for evaluating traffic signal timing and congestion management
- **Commercial and Public Fleet Managers**
  - Study fleet performance for improving operations of transit, public vehicles, commercial delivery vehicles, etc.
- **Traffic/Transportation Researchers**

# Travel Time Studies

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- Systematic deployment on the local or regional transportation network for congestion management
- Identify specific points of delay and congestion
- Aggregate travel times on specific roadway segments
- Increase use at different periods (e.g., morning and afternoon peaks) for more detailed estimates
- More accurate than stopwatch method
- For some applications, requires only one person; can provide significant labor savings



# Travel Time Studies

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- Displays from GPS data collection using probe vehicles
- Summaries of travel time, speed, and delay
  - US 50 corridor in northern Virginia
  - Aggregate data for Alexandria, Virginia
  - Central Avenue in Phoenix, AZ

# US 50 Travel Time Runs: Between Pershing Dr. and Waples Mill Rd.: Thur., Nov. 15, 2001

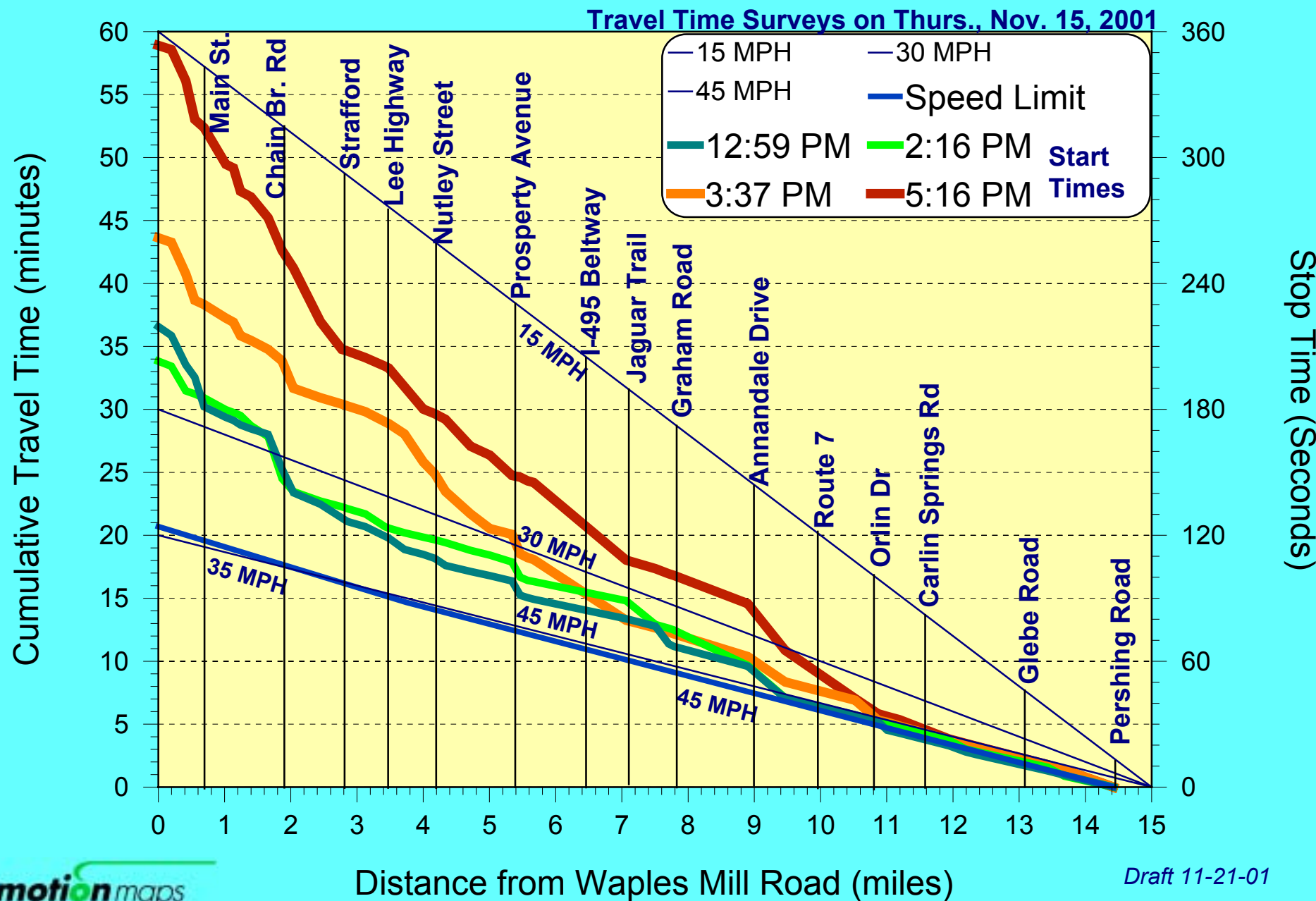
Speed Ranges (mph)

Speed Ranges (mph)



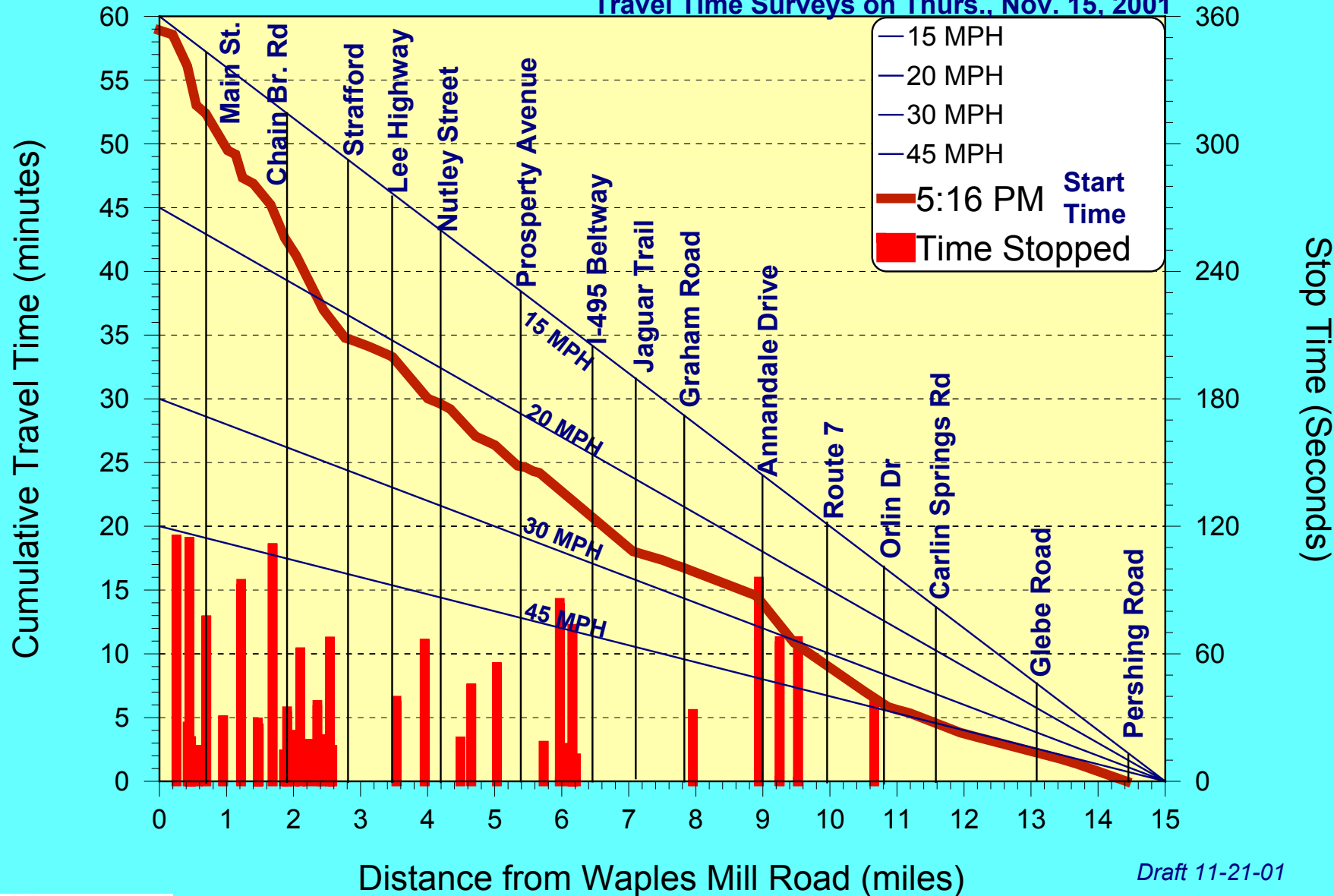
draft 12-11-01

# US 50 Travel Times: Pershing Dr to Waples Mill Rd: Westbound



# US 50 Travel Times: Pershing Dr to Waples Mill Rd: Westbound

Travel Time Surveys on Thurs., Nov. 15, 2001



Draft 11-21-01

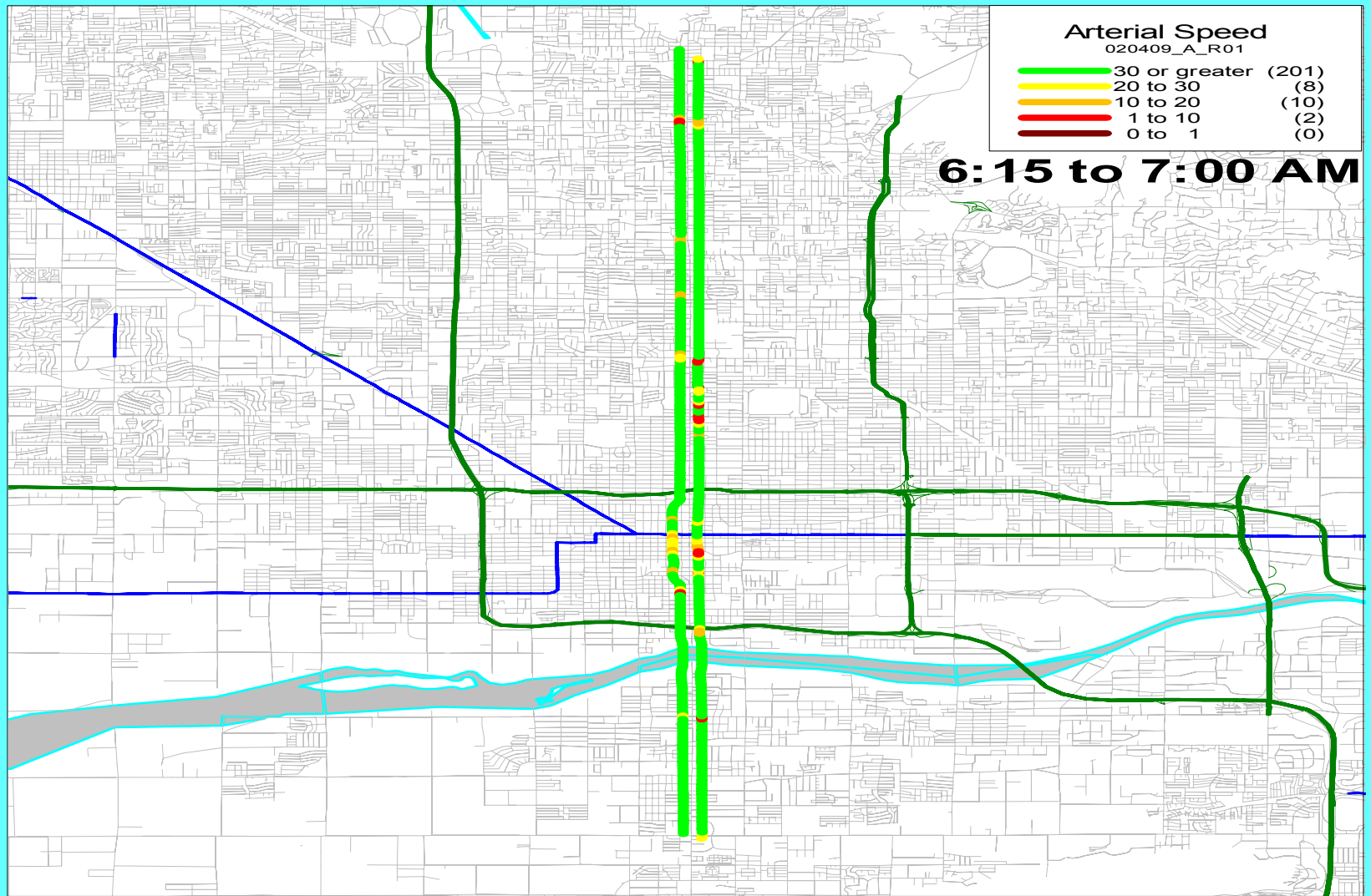


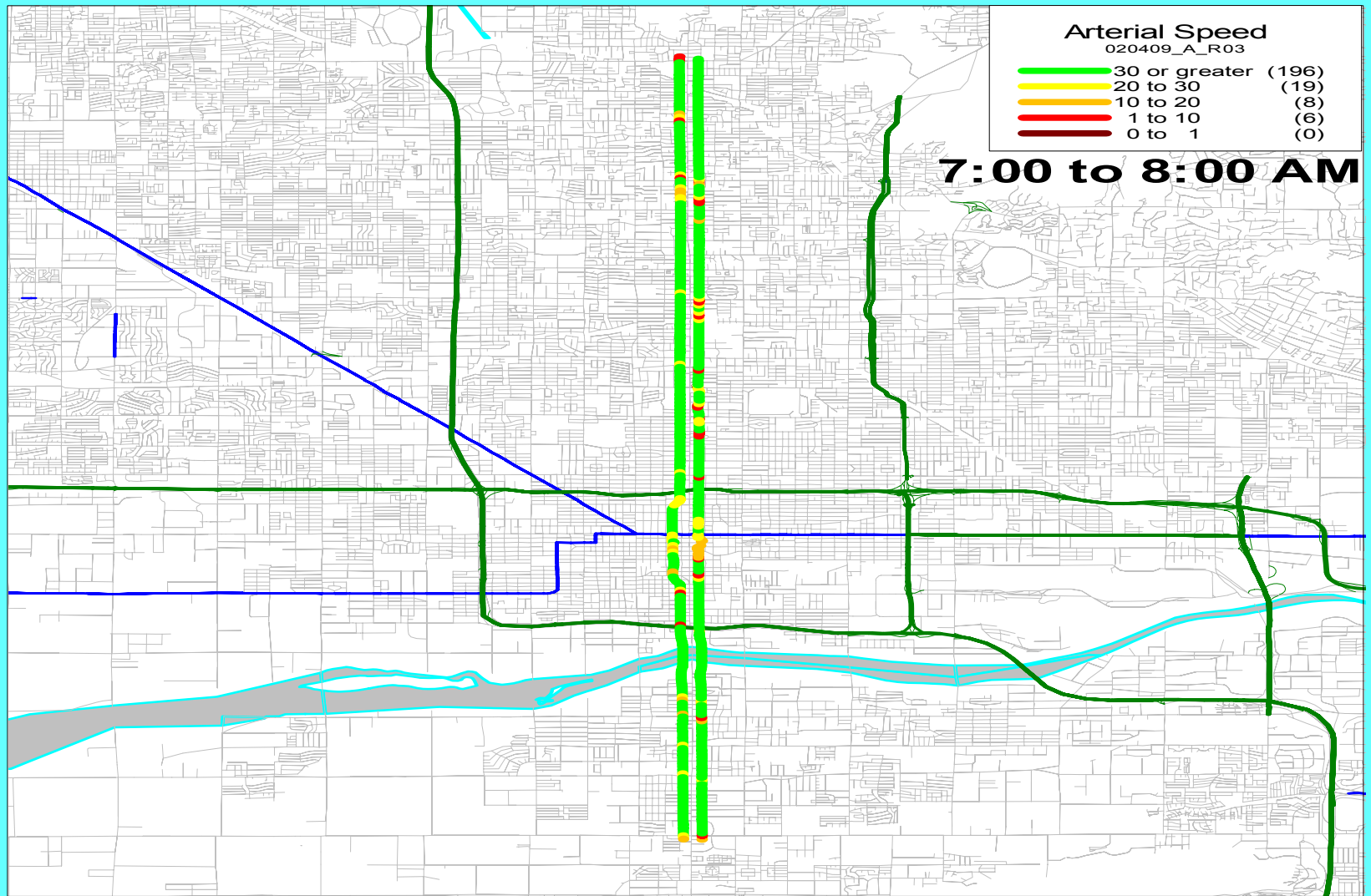


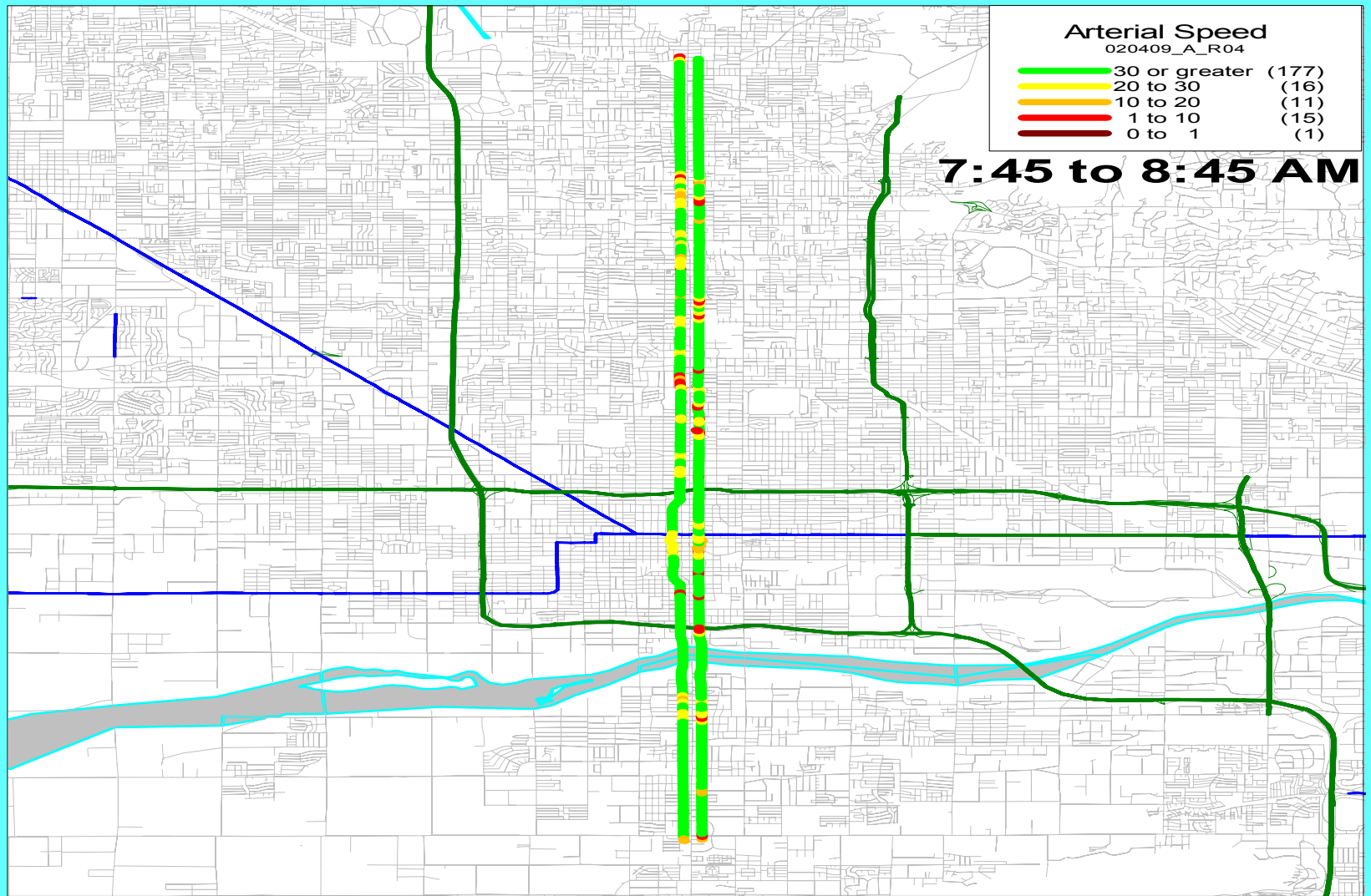












# Household Travel Surveys: Key Benefits

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- Determine
  - under-reporting of trips
  - trip rate correction factors
- Improve the accuracy of specific trip elements
  - trip start and finish time
  - distance
  - origin and destination
  - duration
- Obtain data on
  - route choice
  - highway functional class usage
    - time of day, trip purpose, and travel speed

# Household Travel Surveys: Important Considerations for Implementation

- Length of deployment
  - multiple days improves accuracy
    - non-driving days
    - day-of-week variations
- Number of vehicles per household
- Participation rate
- Participant-installed or technician-installed
- Participant's Primary Language

# Household Travel Surveys: Study Implementation

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- Recruitment and scheduling
- Pre-deployment telephone contact
- Device setup and deployment
- Installation (3-5 min.) and use
- Return of equipment
- Uploading GPS and survey data
- Data processing
- Analysis

# Household Travel Surveys: Entering Data

- Turn on vehicle, then PDA
- Press 'START'
- Never need to enter data while vehicle is in motion



# Household Travel Surveys: Entering Data

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- Select driver from pre-populated list
- Select any passengers, if any, from pre-populated list
- Stow PDA and begin driving

Select Driver:

Ben  
Jane  
Other

CONTINUE CANCEL

Are there any passengers?

YES

NO

Is this correct for this trip?

Driver

Ben

Passengers

Beth  
Eric

YES NO



# Household Travel Surveys: Entering Data (cont.)

- Stop vehicle and select 'END TRIP'

- Select trip purpose for each occupant (will vary for each survey)

- Indicate whether you are at your final destination or an intermediate stop

Choose Trip Purpose for:

Ben

Pick up / drop off passengers  
Work or school  
Eat out  
Social or recreational  
Personal or household business ↓

CONTINUE

Is this your final destination?

YES

NO

Collecting trip data...

END TRIP

Specific purpose for:

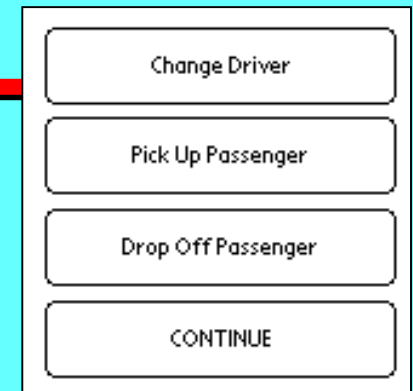
Ben

Pick up passenger  
Drop off passenger

CONTINUE CANCEL

# Household Travel Surveys: Entering Data (cont.)

- For intermediate stops, indicate whether
  - there is a change in driver
  - you picked up a passenger
  - you dropped off a passenger
- Otherwise, device is ready for next trip



Change Driver

Pick Up Passenger

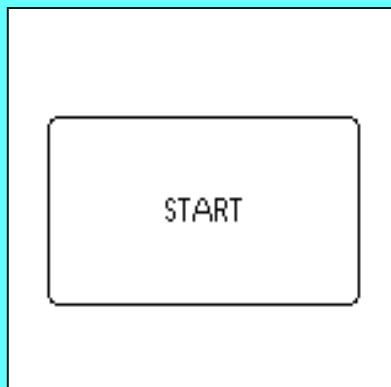
Drop Off Passenger

CONTINUE



START NEXT TRIP

When ready to continue,  
press START NEXT TRIP



START

# Household Travel Surveys: Sample Summary Data

Admin Time: 02/02/01 16:38:54												
Device ID: 2		Timer: 0 min		GPS Sample Rate: 1 sec		GPS Powered: At Power-On		Application: Personal Travel Survey				
Source: Ignition		Idle Speed: 6 km/hr		Analog Sample Rate: 0 sec		PDA Powered: At Power-On		Micro Version: 2.00				
		Idle Time: 30 sec		Idle Sample Rate: 30 sec		GPS Type: Standard		PDA Version: 1.00p				
Chain Number	Trip Number	Start Time	End Time	Number of GPS Records			Distance (miles)	Duration (min)	Occupants	Driver Purpose	PDA Trip	Import Flag
				Bad	Good	Speed > Idle						
1	1	02/02/01 19:18:24	02/02/01 19:33:33	0	503	462	5.34	15.15	2	5,9	Yes	0
2	1	02/02/01 19:35:56	02/02/01 19:41:11	1	150	109	0.69	5.25	3	4,28	Yes	0
3	1	02/02/01 21:05:59	02/02/01 21:11:21	0	149	122	0.94	5.37	3	1,2	Yes	0
	2	02/02/01 21:11:30	02/02/01 21:24:02	0	415	382	5.27	12.53	2	7,30	Yes	0
4	1	02/03/01 12:38:47	02/03/01 12:51:28	0	365	321	3.5	12.68	3	3,8	Yes	0
	2	02/03/01 12:52:10	02/03/01 14:08:53	11	2869	2858	66.71	76.72	3	5,10	Yes	0
5	1	02/03/01 16:43:08	02/03/01 18:47:33	11	1984	1736	28.75	124.42	6	1,2	Yes	0
6	1	02/03/01 18:51:10	02/03/01 20:09:31	8	2952	2911	65.26	78.35	3	7,30	Yes	0
7	1	02/04/01 10:19:10	02/04/01 10:28:38	0	327	299	3.99	9.47	2	10,11	Yes	0
8	1	02/04/01 12:00:00	02/04/01 12:11:18	0	402	338	3.98	11.3	2	7,30	Yes	0
9	1	02/04/01 15:42:49	02/04/01 16:01:37	23	634	562	11.45	18.8	2	3,7	Yes	0
10	1	02/04/01 16:21:45	02/04/01 16:35:06	2	433	393	8.16	13.35	2	3,8	Yes	0
	2	02/04/01 16:35:40	02/04/01 16:44:24	1	283	271	3.55	8.73	2	7,30	Yes	0
11	1	02/05/01 07:28:23	02/05/01 07:58:28	7	1113	1032	18.07	30.08	1	2,4	Yes	0

- Review of speed profile may reveal additional editing that is needed (e.g., trimming of start and end times, identification of intermediate stops)

# Household Travel Surveys: Matching GPS and Interview Trips

- Sort both by time (and date) of day
- Compare start time, end time, trip duration, and trip distance for pairs of trips
- Use automated statistical algorithms to identify matches
- Analyst visually verifies matches and non-matches
- Create final dataset for statistical analysis

# Household Travel Surveys: Analysis

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- Analysis of Trips Using Unmatched Data
  - Vehicle Trip Rates
  - Household Trip Rates, based upon person level information
  - Travel duration of vehicle trips
  - Average number of household members per vehicle trips
- Matched Data
  - Estimated the average ratio of the number of GPS recorded trips to the number of CATI recorded trips

# **Vehicle Activity Surveys**

- Unobtrusive data collection without the handheld unit
- GPS Logger senses vehicle ignition
- Powered by vehicle – don't have to worry about running down internal batteries
- Large data storage capacity can handle long-distance trips
- Allocate vehicle location properly to
  - air basins, counties, urban areas

# **Emission Modeling and Duty Cycle Studies**

- Can measure:
  - starts and stops
  - acceleration and deceleration
  - cruising speeds
  - Ignition/power on/off
- Understand how vehicle activity contributes to airborne emissions
- Understand how vehicles are typically driven to better understand issues relating to wear and tear
- Event port can receive data from external sensor (e.g., direct emissions measurement)

# **Fleet Performance/Operations Analysis**

- Cheaper to rotate units among the fleet than to purchase and permanently install expensive telematics systems
- Understand:
  - how vehicles are typically being driven
    - speeds, aggressive starts and stops, etc.
  - how drivers choose their routes and other behavior